



DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY
NAVAL FACILITIES ENGINEERING COMMAND
200 STOVALL STREET
ALEXANDRIA, VA 22332-2300

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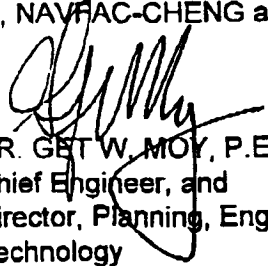
From: Commander, Naval Facilities Engineering Command

Subj: SYSTEM SAFETY AND RISK MANAGEMENT

Ref: (a) OPNAVINST 3500.39
(b) OPNAVINST 5100.23D
(c) NAVINSGENNOTE 5040

Encl: (1) USD (A&T) Memorandum dtd 11 August 1997

1. Enclosure (1), references (a) and (b) contain system safety requirements and information. The Navy IG has established Operational Risk Management, reference (c), as a Special Interest topic. The Navy IG and the NAVFACIG are inspecting for compliance at NAVFAC and at customer activities.
2. In 1997, the Navy IG issued a finding (#1223-97) against NAVFACENGCOM for not having cognizant industrial hygienists and safety professionals review plans and specifications for facilities and equipment. Data collected by NAVFACHQ during FY97 indicates several EFDs are implementing the CNO and NAVFAC requirements; however several EFD, EFA and PWC need improvements in their facility design safety programs.
3. The Navy spends millions of dollars each year abating facility hazards resulting from non-OSHA compliant planning, design, renovation, construction and demolition. Compliant safety and health plans and designs will reduce Navy infrastructure costs. The Facility System Safety Working Group, required by ref (b), is a planning and design process to link customer safety and health needs to the designer via NAVFAC safety engineers.
4. Lean forward to your customer and seek out their safety and health needs. Enhance your design safety program to comply with the reference (a) five step process, ensure all customer safety and health needs are identified, special controls are understood and designed into each facility project. Keep your customer informed of hazard controls being used. This applies to all facility projects, equipment purchased (including off the shelf and Pollution Prevention), ergonomically correct interior designs and Design-Build acquisitions.
5. Point of contact for additional information and/or questions is Craig Schilder, NAVFAC-SF at DSN 221-0435, CML (703)325-0435, or Tony Hinson, NAVFAC-CHENG at 325-7360.


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ACQUISITION AND
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THE UNDER SECRETARY OF DEFENSE
3010 DEFENSE PENTAGON
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AUG 11 1997



MEMORANDUM FOR DEFENSE ACQUISITION COMMUNITY

Subject: System Safety and MilSpec Reform

Department of Defense policy is to rely on performance based requirements whenever practicable and to not require standard management approaches or manufacturing processes in solicitations and contracts. By establishing performance requirements and then relying on contractors to meet those requirements, we dramatically reduce contractual call-out of specific specifications and standards and enable innovation. Most importantly, this allows contractors to meet our full needs — including safety considerations — at the lowest cost.

Discontinuing the practice of including documents in the contract which mandated standard approaches does not mean that we no longer care about the issues addressed by those documents. In fact, Defense program managers and contract oversight personnel must now have even greater understanding of the underlying management or engineering processes at work, and the results required, so that they can evaluate and monitor contractor processes designed to achieve the same ends under this more flexible approach.

Some individuals have construed our new acquisition philosophy to indicate that the Department has slacked off on system safety. Quite the contrary, DoD 5000.2-R, "Mandatory Procedures for Major Defense Acquisition Programs and Major Automated Information Systems," requires program managers to have an aggressive system safety program, and to continually work with their contractors to identify and mitigate design-induced safety risks. Many of the old specifications and standards that were used to constrain design in an attempt to ensure safety are being rewritten into handbooks providing guidance for designers, along with rationale and lessons learned. The end result is a more effective library of design information and guidance leading to safer designs at lower cost, and with greater flexibility given to the contractor to meet all of the performance requirements.

The safety of our people and systems is a fundamental component of mission readiness. For the first time ever, the FY99-03 Defense Planning Guidance includes aggressive accident reduction goals. To meet these goals, Defense acquisition managers must take all reasonable precautions to ensure that weapon system design addresses safety risks at every level of design detail. We will not compromise the safety of our warfighters in weapon design or acquisition of any materiel used to support the warfighters.

R. Noel Longuemare
Acting Under Secretary of Defense
(Acquisition and Technology)

